Application No.: 09/057,781 Docket No.: 65316-0002

## **REMARKS**

Claim 22 has been canceled herein and claims 2, 21, 23, and 25-43 were previously canceled. No claims are amended and no new claims are added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-20, 24, and 44 remain under prosecution in this application.

The Examiner has indicated in the Office Action summary, line 6, that claims 1, 3-20, 22, 24 and 44 are rejected. However, on page 6 of the Office Action, paragraph 9, the Examiner clearly indicates that claims 1, 24, and 44 are allowable. The undersigned assumes that the indication on line 6 of the Office Action summary is erroneous and that independent claims 1, 24 and 44 are allowed.

The Examiner has omitted a specific reference to claim 4. However, in the previous Office Action (paper no. 18), page 2, line 7, the Examiner indicated that "claims 1, 3-20, and 44 are allowed." The undersigned is assuming that the allowance of claim 4 in paper no. 18 carries over to paper no. 20 and that claim 4 remains allowable. The undersigned respectfully asks the Examiner to clarify his position on the allowability of claim 4.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 65316-0002 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: April 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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